



Exit 130 (I-65/Whitestown Parkway Interchange) Improvements Update



A History:

The town of Whitestown has led the effort to urge INDOT to upgrade the Exit 130 (I-65/Whitestown Parkway) interchange. Whitestown was the first municipality to pass a resolution to urge INDOT to upgrade the Exit 130 Interchange ([Whitestown Town Council Resolution 2014-16](#)). This was a very proactive move on the part of the Whitestown Town Council and was passed unanimously on June 10, 2014. The Zionsville Town Council partnered with the Whitestown Town Council and passed a similar resolution during their July meeting. Both resolutions were sent to INDOT and the Governor's office.

Whitestown officials were told by INDOT that a complete reconstruction of the interchange was not in the 10 year funding plan and not an option in the short term. On August 12, 2014, Whitestown officials met internally to discuss what could be done by the town to partner with INDOT to perform needed upgrades to the interchange in the short term. Whitestown officials decided to use town funds and the town engineer to draw up plans to present to INDOT to upgrade the interchange short term. The town of Whitestown was not obligated to spend town funds to engineer an upgrade to infrastructure that the town does not control (INDOT controls the Interchange), but the town felt it necessary to be a good partner. The cost is estimated to be \$1,600,000 and the town of Whitestown has agreed to fund the entire cost of the project with a TIF bond. Even though the town of Zionsville's municipal border touches the southeast corner of this interchange, Whitestown has not asked that they participate in the funding of this proposed upgrade. An engineer's rendering of the upgrade and cost analysis was provided to the Whitestown Town Council in September of 2014 (see photo above). The upgrade will add 2 free flowing right turn lanes to the north bound exit ramp for commuters coming home from Indianapolis during the evening commute and 2 left turn lanes to the bridge for commuters heading south to Indianapolis for the morning commute.

An Update:

Whitestown officials were given permission to move forward with the proposed upgrade and signed work in right of way permits with INDOT on March 13, 2015. INDOT has not committed to funding any of the project at this time. The town is now working on the surveying and the financing of the project. If the bond is approved by the Whitestown RDC, RDA and Town Council, it will be scheduled to close mid-July, 2015. Pending the approval and closing of the TIF bond, the bidding process would begin immediately upon the closing of the bond. The upgrade could begin as early as September 2015. The project will not be adding any right of way, so the upgrade should be completed rapidly.